

stator, a winding end cap assembly for a stator segment assembly including a stator core defining a stator pole, comprising:

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first and second end caps that are connected to opposite axial end surfaces of said stator core; and

a first inner winding retainer section that extends axially to connect an inner end of said first end cap to an inner end of said second end cap.

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29. (Amended) A stator segment assembly for a circumferentially segmented stator of an electric machine, comprising:

a stator segment core for a stator pole of said stator segment assembly that includes first and second side surfaces that extend axially;

a first winding retainer section that extends continuously along said first axial side surface; and

winding wire that is wound around said stator segment core and that is retained by said first winding retainer section.

30. (Amended) The stator segment assembly of claim 29 further comprising:

a second winding retainer section that extends continuously along said second axial side surface.

31. (Amended) The stator segment assembly of claim 29 further comprising:

a third winding retainer section that extends continuously along said first axial side surface in a position that is radially outside of said first winding retainer section.

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Amend.*

32. (Amended) The stator segment assembly of claim 30 further comprising:
a fourth winding retainer section that extends continuously along said second axial side surface in a position that is radially outside of said second winding retainer section.

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34. (Amended) A stator segment assembly for a circumferentially segmented stator of an electric machine, comprising:
a stator segment core defining a stator pole;
a winding retainer attached to said stator segment core, wherein said winding retainer defines a substantially continuous annular channel around said stator segment core; and
winding wire that is wound in said continuous annular channel.
